

The Debris Question Again.

WHEATLAND, March 8, 1880.

SACRAMENTO BECK—MEMBERS EDITORS: The *Record-Union* in its criticism of the Carr bill, says the main surface distinction between this and the Parks bill consists in the method of raising the revenue. The distinction between the adherents of the Parks bill and those who will support the Carr bill, with a few alterations, is that the latter hold it to be the State's duty to avert all the threatened damage to her citizens from hydraulic debris; whereas, under the Parks bill, the citizens who have been so uncalculably injured by this system of mining would have by far the greater portion of the expenses to bear.

The position of the citizens injured and threatened with injury by hydraulic debris who are opposed to the Parks bill (and, by the way, it has but few supporters outside of the swamp land owners and hydraulic miners), is that the Carr bill or the Chamberlain bill, which ever the preference is given to, aims to provide drainage, leveeing and improving rivers only so far as it is made necessary by the changes the hydraulic debris has or may occasion in the river channel, in other words, to restore drainage where hydraulic debris has destroyed it. And if the Carr bill, or any other bill, does not meet this end it must be amended so as to meet it before we can give it our approval.

We hold that the State has no right to appropriate money to be expended on internal improvement, only so far as it is required to protect its law-abiding and tax-paying citizens, who have been so grossly wronged by the very unreasonable use made of the river channels by the hydraulic miners—yes; the very unlawful use made of the rivers by them. When we seriously think upon the subject the idea that the State demands taxes from us for the protection she owes us for our property is absolutely horrifying.

Could not many reasons be adduced why the State should furnish means to avert a further injury from hydraulic debris when it is remembered that she holds hydraulic mining so sacred, that it may take from many of her law-abiding citizens their all and rendering large districts of originally fertile country barren and uninhabitable? The true way for the State to do in this matter is for her to, in the coming summer, construct the necessary dams in Yuba and Bear rivers, and also levee those rivers to their mouths.

The State Engineer says the work most necessary to be done and all that would be done the coming summer is the work proposed on those two rivers, and of the reclamation of the tule lands before the effect produced upon the lower rivers by the hy-

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